

GULF SHORE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

Dates to Remember:

October 3 – Gr 7 – Cavendish Beach Fieldtrip
October 3 - Grade 7-9 Cross Country @ Charlottetown Rural
October 4 – Terry Fox Run/Walk
October 8 - Zone 3 Cross Country Meet Grades 3-6 @ Elliot River
October 9 – 11 – Tim’s Camp
October 14 – Thanksgiving – Holiday- NO CLASSES
October 15– HPV clinic for Grade 6 & 9
October 16 – Home & School Meeting
October 25 – Halloween Family Dance- 5:00 – 7:00.
October 30 – Picture Retake Day
November 1 – Professional Learning Day – NO CLASSES
November 6 – Remembrance Day Assembly
November 7 & 8 – PEITF Convention
November 11 – Remembrance Day – NO CLASSES
November 20 – Report cards sent home
November 21 – 22 – Scholastic Book Fair
November 21 & 22 – Student Learning Conferences (23rd –Evening & 22 – Daytime – NO CLASSES

Bus Transfers: A reminder that bus transfers are not permitted at Gulf Shore. We run with five buses and each bus is filled to capacity. Please make alternate transportation plans when necessary that do not include bus transfers.

Terry Fox News: This is the 43rd anniversary for the Annual Terry Fox Run /Walk and our school has raised over \$125 000 in 21 years. That’s amazing! Our goal is to participate with heart and soul like we do every year. We will "Try Like Terry!" Our run/walk will take place on Friday, October 4. Please remember to keep these pledges coming so we can reach our goal of 7,250.00. We can do this!!!

Attendance and Engagement in the PSB

As we mentioned in our first newsletter of the year, schools across PEI are renewing their emphasis on the importance of regular attendance. Being present and on time ensures that students have the best opportunity to engage fully in their learning and stay connected with their peers and teachers. In September, more than 80% of students missed fewer than 10% of school days. This is an optimistic start to our school year that we can build on! Let’s continue working together to help reinforce the value of consistent attendance, as every day counts towards building a successful academic year.

Sports News:

Fall sports are in full swing here at Gulf Shore!

Intramurals are set to begin daily starting on the week of October 14th.

Intermediate (7-9) students will be welcomed to the gym every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12:00-12:30PM.

Grades 5&6 - October (every Tuesday & Thursday)

Grades 3&4 - November (every Tuesday & Thursday)

Grades K-2 - December (every Tuesday & Thursday)

The Girls and Boys Int. A Soccer teams have played their first league games and their effort has translated into some success on the field! The girls record currently sits at 2-0-0 and the boys are 1-0-1. Both teams have some games that had been postponed and changes to the schedule are presently being finalized. Good luck to both of our Sharks Soccer teams as they continue their regular season.

Cross-Country – our runners have been working hard at our noon practices with Mrs. Bernard and Coach Roche over the last couple of weeks. **Pre-Novice and Novice athletes** will be bussed to **Eliot River School** for their meet on Tuesday, **Oct 8th**. Students in grade 3-6 (who receive a letter of qualification from Coach Roche) will arrive at school as usual on this day and will travel to Eliot River on a bus.

Our **Bantam/Intermediate runners** will be going to their meet at **Charlottetown Rural** for **Thursday, October 3rd**. Bantam/Int. Runners will be responsible for finding their own transportation and should plan to arrive at Rural for 10AM.

The races on Oct 3rd will begin at:

10:15 – bantam girls

10:35 – bantam boys

10:55 – intermediate girls

11:15 – intermediate boys

Best of luck and we hope to hear that some of you make it on to Provincials later in the month!
Keep working hard, Sharks!

Band News:

Order forms for grade 7 band shirts will be going home the week of Oct. 7/2024. Please fill them in if you need a band shirt for this year. For students needing replacements or a change in size, please see Ms. Pavlik for an order form.

There will be a band parent meeting later this month. Please watch your email for details. All grade 7,8, and 9 band parents are welcome to attend. We will be discussing fundraising and trip possibilities for this year.

We have had a good start with band practices and attendance. Thank you and keep it up.

Please send in the 30.00 band fee for all grades 7,8, and 9 band students. It helps pay for our consumables such as reeds, valve oil, cleaning cloths, and instrument repairs. This goes directly to Donna in the office – thank you, Donna!

Music News:

The grade 6's had a great start to the year. We will begin our early morning practices in October.

October 16 Grade 6 Clarinets only

October 23 Grade 6 Flutes Only

October 30 Grade 6 Brass Only

In November, we will begin rehearsals with everyone. Students should arrive at the school by 7:45 a.m.

Gulf Shore Home and School News:

Gulf Shore Home and School Board is a member of the PEI Home and School Federation, and they believe participation of parents and guardians in the education of children is vital. Our goal as a Home and School Association is to offer support to the school and help by being liaisons between the school and parents.

Home and school do this in multiple ways.

The Gulf Shore Hot lunch program: we are once again offering Milk and Pizza.

NOTE: this is not affiliated with the provinces Healthy Food Program.

Pizza and Milk is available for purchase via our <https://gulfshore.hotlunches.net>

Milk is available 5 days a week and Pizza from By the Bay is available for purchase on Fridays only. If you are new to the program, you can register your child (info on school website).

Ordering is now open.

The Breakfast Program: is actively looking for volunteers for to help with this.

We are looking for any individual that might have a few hours available to help prepare and serve the students starting at 8:20 when they start to arrive. If you or have someone retired in your life who might like to help out with this please reach out to someone on the board.

Volunteers will be required to get a Criminal & Vulnerable Sector check.

The Terry Fox Run and BBQ on Oct 4th. Home and School volunteers, will be providing and serving lunch for the staff and students.

We will be offering gluten free hotdogs again and will try to have gluten free buns however, if your child wishes to take a bun along with them feel free.

BIG THANKS TO RUSTICO HOME HARDWARE who have donated a BBQ to Home and School to have to use for these types of events.

SAVE THE DATE -

October 25th Gulf Shore Home and School will be hosting a Halloween Family Dance 5-7pm. All ages welcome; however all minors **MUST** be accompanied by a Caregiver. Admission by donation. Prizes for best costumes. Watch the Home and School Page for more details to come.

We would like to introduce the Gulf Shore Home and School Association Executives and volunteers for the 2024/25 school year.

President - Dorothy Wakelin

Past President - Marsha LeBlanc

Vice President - Ashley Ryder

Treasurer - Lindsay Gallant

Secretary - Martina Cole-Gallant

Milk/School Food Program - Kristin LeClair

Food for Thought Cupboard - Heather Doucette

Our Next meeting is Wednesday, October 16th at 7pm in the Staff room at GSCS
- **ALL caregivers of students are welcomed to attend.**

School cancellations

All Public Schools Branch (PSB) weather-related cancellations will be announced on local radio stations and posted on the PSB website by 7:00 am. An announcement that “all classes in the public schools branch are cancelled” means that there is no school for students. An announcement of a “system-wide shutdown” indicates that all schools and offices are closed. In some instances, it may only be necessary to close an individual school or a Family of Schools. Partial system closures or delays will be announced by Family of Schools. **Gulf Shore belong to the Bluefield Family of Schools**

One-hour delay

If a decision on cancellation cannot be made by 7:00 am, a one-hour delay will be announced whereby all schools and buses will operate one hour later than usual. A further announcement will be broadcast by 8:00 am.

Late buses

In some instances, even in fine weather, buses may be delayed. Parents will be notified via radio broadcast that a bus will be delayed (i.e. Bus #297 is running 30 minutes late).

School closures during the day

It may be necessary to close a school or a family of schools part way through a school day. Detailed announcements will be made on local radio stations and school board websites. Please ensure that your child’s homeroom teacher knows what your **Early Closure Plan** is for your child. **If there is an early closure, please stick with your child’s early closure plan.**

Suggestions for parents

1. The final decision to attend school or to travel to school via school bus always rests with the parent.
2. Please do not drop children off at school unless you are certain that school is operating that day and that staff are present to supervise the children.
3. Please listen to the radio and check the PSB website frequently between 6:30 and 8:00 am daily to determine if schools are operating. Every effort will be made to have announcements broadcast by 7:00 am.
4. Please do not call the school, PSB office, or radio stations for information on cancellations or delays. Such calls tie up telephone lines which may be needed for emergency use.

Thank you for your support. Together we will work to ensure a safe winter for all of our children.

Helpful Links

- Environment Canada's Weather Forecast for [Charlottetown](#), [St. Peter's Bay](#), [East Point](#), [Maple Plains](#), [North Cape](#) and [Summerside](#)
- [PEI Road Conditions](#)
- [PEI Government Storm Closures or Delays](#) (A notification/link will appear on the Government home page when there are workplace closures.)
- [CBC PEI's Storm Centre](#)
- [Ocean 100](#) and [Hot 105.5](#) Storm Centres
- [CFCY](#) Storm Watch

COMMUNITY NEWS

Home and School News, October 2024

Register for Semi-Annual Meeting

The P.E.I. Home and School Federation's Semi-Annual Meeting will be held on Mon., Oct. 21, 2024,

6–8 pm at Central Queens Elementary School, Hunter River. Topics & Speakers are:

STUDENT HEALTH SURVEY PLANS:

* Cody Davenport, *COMPASS* program surveys grades 7-12 students; will share survey results and plans for the 2024-2025 school year.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS & FOOD SAFETY SUPPORTS:

* Courtney Shaffer, Inspector = What are Food Safety guidelines/supports for school food programs?

*Samantha Dougay, Dietitian = What's in a healthy breakfast menu?

* Heather Walker, Spring Park = This is how our breakfast program works.

*David Schult for Sterling Carruthers = Education and Early Years funding for school breakfast and snack programs

- Parents, educators, and students in your school community are welcome!
- Invite your school's breakfast program volunteers!

REGISTER by Oct. 16/24 at: <https://forms.gle/tbamHFkUu8ebi4fv9>

Training Workshops for Volunteers

Vicki Bryanton and Stephen Gould will lead Home and School Training Workshops as follows:

Nov. 4 – Ellerslie Consolidated School, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Nov. 5 – Eliot River Elementary School, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Guidance for executive positions (i.e., President, Co/Vice President, Secretary); Bookkeeping tips for Treasurers and general information for all volunteers.

No cost. Register by emailing peihsf@gov.pe.ca or call 902-620-3186 by **Oct. 30.**

Crossing Guard Recognition Award

Awards recognize deserving individuals in school communities. The P.E.I. Home and School Federation Crossing Guard Award celebrates individuals who help keep students safe every school day. Nominations are due **Nov. 1.** Find the application at: <https://peihsf.ca/Crossing-Guard-Award>.

Parent Leadership Grants

Funds available for up to \$500 for Home and Schools to organize parent educational information sessions. Invite speakers to address topics of interest to your school community (i.e., Mental Wellness, Student Well Being Teams, Cyberbullying Awareness, School Food Programs, Proper Use of Cell Phones). Submission deadline: **Nov. 8.** PL Grant online: <https://peihsf.ca/grants/>

PSB Public meetings: Charlottetown Family of Schools study

The Board of Trustees is now engaging with the Charlottetown school community and stakeholders to receive feedback on the recommendations contained in the report. To review the report, [visit the Public Schools Branch's website](#). Share your feedback by emailing psb-schoolreview@edu.pe.ca using "Charlottetown Family of Schools" in the subject line by Oct. 18/24. Share input by attending a public meeting: Oct. 1, 6:30 pm, Spring Park Elementary; Oct. 8, 2024, 6:30 pm, Charlottetown Rural High School; Oct. 10, 2024, 6:30 pm, Birchwood Intermediate School.

PEI's Auditor General's Report: Healthiness of Food in Schools, Sept. 18/24

- READ: [The auditor general's full report on nutrition in P.E.I. schools](#)
- LISTEN: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ff1oHBRaDIU>

Education and Economic Development: Public Schools Branch Staffing Presentation, Sept. 19/24

- READ: <https://docs.assembly.pe.ca/PSB Staffing>
- LISTEN: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ff1oHBRaDIU>

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Revolution Dance Studio

Come Try Dance Classes: Your first week is free: Classes of all ages! Hip Hop, Contemporary, Ballet, Step Dance, Musical theatre. Register on website at www.revolutiondancestudio.ca. Located at 53 Thompson Drive, Charlottetown.

Biathlon & Cross Country Skiing Programs for Youth

If you are looking for a fun outdoor activity for your kids to participate in this winter, Nordic Sports PEI (formerly Biathlon PEI and Cross Country PEI) offers two excellent programs at the Nordic Centre at the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park, Brookvale. Learn to Ski Program The Learn to Ski Program provides children aged 6-9 years the opportunity to learn the basic skills of classic cross-country skiing from former Canada Games coaches John and Anne Keuper. This program is held on Saturday mornings from 10-12 am from January to March. Space in the program is limited so don't wait to register. Equipment needed: Classic cross country ski equipment. Rental equipment is available from the Brookvale Bears Biathlon Club (on first come/served basis) or from the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park. Program fees: \$55 plus rentals (if required, \$30). Online registration with Nordic Sports PEI is also required for insurance purposes at a cost of \$20 for the year. Program fees include a season's pass to the Nordic trails at the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park at Brookvale. Biathlon Bears Program The Biathlon Bears

Program gives children aged 8-14 the opportunity to learn the basic skills of biathlon (marksmanship and skate skiing) as they progress through 3 levels of the program. Sessions are held twice weekly (Wednesdays 6-7:30 pm and Sundays 12-2:00 pm) and runs from January to March. There are also additional summer and fall activities offered. Equipment Needed: Air rifles (provided during practices for use by participants) and skate ski equipment. Ski rentals are available on first come/served basis from the Brookvale Bears Biathlon Club. Program fees: \$125 plus ski rentals (if required, \$75). Online registration with Nordic Sports PEI is also required for insurance purposes at a cost of \$20 for the year. Program fees include a season's pass to the Nordic trails at the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park at Brookvale. If you are interested in enrolling your child in one of these programs, please contact the program manager (Brad Haltli, brad.haltli@nordicsportspei.ca) with the following information: 1) program you are interested in, 2) child's name, and 3) child's age and online registration information will be provided. Gear fitting for these programs will be held on Sunday, December 8th at the Brookvale Nordic lodge of the Mark Arendz Provincial Ski Park from 12:00- 4:00 PM. Space in the program is limited so please register early. Parent involvement in the Learn to Ski and Biathlon Bears Programs is essential to sustaining these successful programs. We are looking for new coaches to join the programs. For more information about registration or if you are interested in volunteering as supporter or coach for either program, please contact the Brookvale Biathlon Bears Program manager. Financial support for program fees can be obtained by applying to the Kids Sport program (<https://kidsportcanada.ca/prince-edward-island/provincial-fund/>) Brad Haltli Brookvale Biathlon Bears Program Manager Brad.Haltli@nordicsportspei.ca www.nordicsportspei.ca.

Scouts

Looking for something NEW. Why not try Scouts!

We have a variety of meeting options for different age groups, and we'd love to welcome your youth to our co-ed nature program! Here is a full list of meeting times and locations for the 2024

– 2025 season.

<u>Beaver Colony: (ages 5 – 7)</u> Summerside – Wednesday Summerside – Saturday FRENCH-New2025 Kensington – Tuesday _NEW for 2025 North Rustico -Wednesday – NEW 2025 North Bedque – Summer program –	<u>Cub Pack (ages 8-10)</u> Summerside – Wednesday Summerside – Saturday FRENCH Kensington – Sunday North Rustico – New for 2025 North Bedque – Summer program
<u>Scout Troop (ages 11-14)</u> Summerside/Kensington – Tuesday North Rustico – New 2025 North Bedque – Summer program	<u>Venturer Company (ages 15 – 17)</u> Summerside/Kensington – Thursday <u>Rover Crew (ages 18-25)</u> Summerside/Kensington – Thursdady <u>Youth Leadership (ages 14+)</u> Qualifies under PEI Community Service Bursary

Registration opens on September 22, 2024. If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out. We look forward to hearing from you.

Your friends at Scouts,

Vanessa Macfarlane (Scouter Sunshine)

Group Commissioner – Summerside/Kensington Scouts

Vanessa.macfarlane@scouts.ca